

Message Text

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USIAEA

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 9218, ACTION SECSTATE DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY 16 MARCH:

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USOECN

DEPARTMENT PASS OES/NET FOR PROCHNIK, EB/ORF/FSE
FOR RAMSAY, DOE PASS VANDERRYN, G. CUNNINGHAM,
P. AFANESANKO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: SECOND NEA FUEL CYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING

1. SUMMARY: NEA FUEL CYCLE COMMITTEE MET MARCH 14-
15, 1978. REPORTS WERE PRESENTED BY EXPERT GROUPS
ON URANIUM EXPLORATION TECHNIQUES, IUREP, FUEL CYCLE
DEMAND. PROPOSALS FOR CHANGING MANDATE OF WORKING
PARTY ON URANIUM DEMAND, ESTABLISHING NEW NEA/IAEA
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WORKING PARTY ON URANIUM EXTRACTION AND OTHER
BUSINESS OF COMMITTEE WERE DISCUSSED. IN GENERAL
ALL SUGGESTIONS PUT TO COMMITTEE RECEIVED AT
LEAST PARTIAL APPROVAL SO THAT WORK OF GROUP CAN
BE EXPECTED TO EXPAND IN COMING YEAR. END SUMMARY.

2. SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING APPROVED

WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.

3. REVISED SET OF FOUR PROPOSALS FROM NEA/IAEA JOINT GROUP OF EXPERTS ON R&D IN URANIUM EXPLORATION TECHNIQUES WAS DISTRIBUTED. FRG, CANADA, FRANCE, THE EC AND U.S. EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SOME OR ALL OF PROPOSALS. THE SECRETARIAT WILL REQUEST FORMAL EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES.

4. INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT ON IUREP DISTRIBUTED AND REVIEWED BY NININGER. 160 COUNTRIES WERE CATEGORIZED ACCORDING TO CRITERIA SET BY STEERING GROUP ON URANIUM RESOURCES. INTERMEDIATE IUREP PHASE TO FIRM UP PHASE I AND IMPROVE ESTIMATES WAS RECOMMENDED. THIS WOULD CONCENTRATE ON 36 COUNTRIES WITH GOOD POTENTIAL AND COST 2 MILLION DOLLARS. INTEREST IN NEW WORK EXPRESSED BY FRG, U.S., ITALY, FRANCE. OTHER COUNTRIES EITHER DECLINED OR NEED CONSULTATION. DEADLINE OF APRIL 7 SET FOR FURTHER EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST.

5. CHAIRMAN OF WORKING PARTY ON URANIUM DEMAND DISTRIBUTED FINAL COPY OF REPORT ON NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE REQUIREMENT AND SUPPLY CONSIDERATION. COMMITTEE AGREED REPORT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED BIANNUALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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AS JOINT NEA/IAEA WORK IN PARALLEL WITH THE RED BOOK ON URANIUM DEMAND, AND NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE COORDINATED WITH INFCE. FUTURE REPORTS WILL ALSO INCLUDE PROJECTIONS OF SPENT FUEL AND WASTE PER U.S. SUGGESTION. CANADA AND FRANCE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT URANIUM EXPLORATION COULD BE PUSHED TO PROCEED TOO FAST AND MAY LEAD TO OVER SUPPLY AS IN LATE 1950'S.

6. PROPOSAL TO BROADEN MANDATE OF WORKING PARTY ON URANIUM DEMAND INTO A JOINT IEA/IAEA WORKING PARTY WITH TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC INTEREST IN SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF RAW MATERIALS AND FUEL CYCLE SERVICES WAS APPROVED.

7. COMMITTEE REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED IAEA PROPOSAL TO SET UP JOINT WORKING GROUP ON URANIUM. CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARIAT STRESSED OBJECTIVE OF DEVELOPING COLLABORATIVE R&D PROJECTS, WHILE U.K. RECOMMENDED PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE. JAPAN SUPPORTED NEW GROUP BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER ADDED WORKLOAD ON SECRETARIAT. JAPAN ALSO UN-

CERTAIN IF GROUP SHOULD COVER FUEL STORAGE AND WASTE ISSUE. NOTE THAT FCC TERMS OF REFERENCE ALLOWS ESTABLISHING OR DELETING WORKING GROUPS WITHOUT STEERING COMMITTEE APPROVAL.

8. HAUSSERMANN REPORT ON COOPERATION WITH INFCE TO DATE. MOST DIRECT ASSISTANCE SUPPLIED TO GROUPS 1, 2, 3 AND 4. RED BOOK ON URANIUM DEMAND AND YELLOW BOOK ON NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE REQUIREMENT GIVEN TO THE APPROPRIATE PARTIES. ASSISTANCE ALSO PROVIDED IN DEVELOPING INFCE QUESTIONNAIRE. OXIDE FUEL REPROCESSING REPORT PREPARED BY NELT GIVEN TO INFCE GROUP 4.

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9. FCC AGREED TO ESTABLISH BUREAU COMPOSED OF CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN, NEA AND IAEA SECRETARIATS AND CHAIRMAN OF WORKING GROUP AS APPROPRIATE TO ORGANIZE AND COORDINATE ACTIVITIES. IT WAS STRESSED THAT THIS WAS NOT DECISION-MAKING BODY.

10. THE NEXT MEETING WAS SET FOR SEPTEMBER 28-29, 1978.
SALZMAN UNQUOTE. VANCE

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